



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS LEXINGTON (AVT-16)
FLEET POST OFFICE
MIAMI, FLORIDA 34088

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From: Commanding Officer, USS LEXINGTON (AVT-16)
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-05D2)

Subj: Command History (1 January to 31 December 1982); submission of

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5720.12C

Encl: (1) Command History
(2) Pertinent press clippings

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) and (2) are submitted as this command's history record of 1982.

J.W. Ryan
J.W. RYAN

Copy to:
Director of Naval History (OP-09BH)
CINCLANTFLT
COMNAVAIRLANT

BASIC HISTORY

(1) Command History

Commanding Officer

Captain James W. Ryan

4 December 1981 -

LEXINGTON is homeported at the Naval Air Station Pensacola, Florida and is the training carrier for basic, advanced and fleet pilot qualifications. LEXINGTON is under the operational control of Chief of Naval Air Training and the administrative control of Commander Naval Air Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet.

From October 4 1982 to December 9, 1982 LEXINGTON underwent a Selected Restricted Availability period at Naval Station Mayport, Florida.

(2) Summary of Operations, Events

January 9 Thirty-five NJROTC from Leesburgh, Georgia embarked for training.

January 11 - 21 Underway conducting carrier qualifications in Key West and Pensacola operating areas. 1197 day traps and 31 night traps accomplished.

February 15 - 25 Underway conducting carrier qualifications in Key West and Pensacola operating areas. 1130 day traps and 100 night traps accomplished.

February 15 YN1 Daisy Mae Morgan was named LEXINGTON's Sailor of the Year. Commander Robert A. Montgomery, Executive Officer, frocked to captain.

February 17 LEXINGTON celebrated her 39th birthday.

February 19 LEXINGTON trapped her 415,000 arrested landing. It was made by LTJG W. Erichman from VT-27 in a T-2.

February 22 LEXINGTON hosted a crew's talent show in the hangar bay.

March 25 - April 1 Underway conducting carrier qualifications in Key West operating area. 1002 day traps and 51 night traps were accomplished.

March 27 HC-16, Search and Rescue team picked up three Cuban nationals whose fishing boat had capsized.

May 4 - 13 Underway conducting carrier qualifications in Pensacola and Corpus Christi operating areas. 1377 day traps and 140 night traps accomplished.

May 10 Ensign Jacobs from VT-7 had a flame out approximately 200 feet above the ship. He ejected safely from his TA-4 and was picked up by HC-16.

May 10 Rear Admiral Booth, Chief of Naval Air Training trapped onboard. He remained overnight and appeared in a live interview on WLEX, the ship's closed circuit TV.

May 12 Two original crewmembers, Mr. Selbie Greenhalgh and Mr. Warren McLellan arrived onboard via COD. They remained overnight and appeared on WLEX.

May 16 Four midshipmen embarked for a four week training cruise.

June 2 LEXINGTON sponsored the second annual Navy Relief Fun(d) Run. Nine hundred dollars was raised for the Navy Relief drive.

June 5 Four sea cadets embarked for a two week training cruise.

June 8 Marine 2nd Lieutenant J.L. Sorenson of VT-26 ejected from his T-2 after he was unable to take a cat shot due to the bridle breaking. He was picked up uninjured by HC-16.

June 12 Four sea cadets embarked for training.

June 7 - 17 Underway conducting carrier qualifications in Pensacola and Corpus Christi operating areas. 862 day traps and 253 night traps accomplished.

July 12 - 21 Underway conducting carrier qualifications in Pensacola and Corpus Christi operating areas. 1084 day traps and 108 night traps accomplished.

July 12 Eight NJROTC's embarked for a two week training cruise.

July 15 First woman qualified onboard in T-2 and TA-4.

July 30 Men's varsity softball team took first place in the Atlantic Fleet Regional Slow Pitch Softball Tourney at Cecil Field.

August 11 - 15 LEXINGTON's women's softball team took first place in the Southeast Regional Softball Tournament held at Whiting Field.

August 16 LEXINGTON conducted a one day Civilian Orientation Cruise. Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, Billy Sanders, was among the guests onboard.

August 16 - 24 Underway conducting carrier qualifications in the Pensacola and Corpus Christi operating areas. 872 day traps and 24 night traps were accomplished.

September 4 LEXINGTON hosted Scout Day 1982. Approximately 100 Boy Scouts, representing 18 local troops were onboard for lunch and tours.

September 13 - 21 Underway conducting carrier qualifications in Corpus Christi and Pensacola operating areas. 1275 day traps and 232 night traps accomplished.

September 19 Al Crouch from TV3 in Pensacola trapped onboard to gather information for a story on jet pilot training.

October 1 - 3 December 9 Underway to Naval Station Mayport, Florida for Selected Restricted Availability.

October 4 Commenced ship's Selected Restricted Availability.

December 9 - 18 Underway conducting carrier qualifications in Key West and Pensacola operating areas. 1144 day traps and 49 night traps accomplished.

December 14 & 15 Chief of Naval Air Training Wing Commander Conference held onboard LEXINGTON.

December 18 Returned to homeport at Naval Air Station Pensacola, Florida.

December 19 "Decemberfest", the annual children's Christmas party was held in the hangar bay. Gifts, refreshments and entertainment were provided for all dependent children.

LEXINGTON's public relations role continued extensively as in previous years. LEXINGTON provided tours on a daily basis for thousands of casual inport visitors, in addition to the embarked cruise guests. The total public relations program on LEXINGTON provides a vital means of demonstrating U.S. Navy carrier aviation to the general public.

In 1982 LEXINGTON continued to be an important step of naval aviator training. The ship completed 250,161 arrested landings with no major mishaps, bringing her record total of arrested landings to over 425,000.